

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the amendments above and the comments set forth fully below. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-11 and 13-34 were pending. Within the Office Action, the Claims 1, 3-7, 9-11, 13-19, 21-26 and 28-34 have been rejected and Claims 20 and 27 have been allowed. By the above amendments, Claims 1, 5-7, 10, 11, 15, 16, 20, 22, 27 and 34 have been amended, and Claims 13, 19 and 26 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-11, 14-18, 20-25 and 27-34 are pending.

Claim Amendments

Many of the amendments above are directed to correcting a typographical error by amending “removeably” to “removably.” Specifically, Claims 5, 6, 10, 15, 20 and 27 include only this superficial amendment without a substantive amendment.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Within the Office Action, Claims 1, 3, 4 and 29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,842,606 to Devito (hereinafter “Devito”). Devito teaches a beverage server. Devito does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. Devito also does not teach wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment.

In contrast to the teachings of Devito, the present invention is directed towards a paint storage container including a plurality of paint storage compartments formed in downward sloping configuration with each compartment having a spigot coupled to the base for dispensing the stored paint. [Present Specification, Abstract]. In one aspect of the present invention, a frame is configured for holding the paint storage compartments. [Present Specification, page 3, line 22]). In another aspect of the present invention, a body is configured for holding the paint compartments. [Present Specification, page 4, line 7]. Moreover, the present invention specifies a means for dispensing removably coupled to the paint storage compartments. [Present Specification, page 2, lines 18-19]. Furthermore, in contrast to the teachings of Devito, the present invention teaches a dispensing means for dispensing paint without having to lift the paint storage compartments from a wall or a resting surface. The dispensing means is removably

coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments. As discussed above, Devito does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. Devito also does not teach wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment.

The independent Claim 1 is directed to a paint storage container. The paint storage container of Claim 1 comprises a plurality of paint storage compartments each for storing paint having a front, a back, a first side, a second side and a base, wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, a frame holding the paint storage compartments and a means for dispensing. The means for dispensing is removably coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments for dispensing paint from the paint storage compartments, wherein the means for dispensing is capable of dispensing paint without lifting the paint compartments. As discussed above, Devito does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Devito.

Claims 3, 4 and 29 are all dependent on the independent Claim 1. As discussed above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Devito. Accordingly, the dependent Claims 3, 4 and 29 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claims 1, 3, 4 and 29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,109,482 to Briggs (hereinafter “Briggs”). Briggs teaches a device for dispensing liquid from a bottle. Briggs does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. Briggs also does not teach wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment.

In contrast to the teachings of Briggs, the present invention is directed towards a paint storage container including a plurality of paint storage compartments formed in downward sloping configuration with each compartment having a spigot coupled to the base for dispensing the stored paint. [Present Specification, Abstract]. In one aspect of the present invention, a frame is configured for holding the paint storage compartments. [Present Specification, page 3, line 22]. In another aspect of the present invention, a body is configured for holding the paint compartments. [Present Specification, page 4, line 7]. Moreover, the present invention specifies a means for dispensing removably coupled to the paint storage compartments. [Present

Specification, page 2, lines 18-19]. Furthermore, in contrast to the teachings of Briggs, the present invention teaches a dispensing means for dispensing paint without having to lift the paint storage compartments from a wall or a resting surface. The dispensing means is removably coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments. As discussed above, Briggs does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. Briggs also does not teach wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment.

The independent Claim 1 is directed to a paint storage container. The paint storage container of Claim 1 comprises a plurality of paint storage compartments each for storing paint having a front, a back, a first side, a second side and a base, wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, a frame holding the paint storage compartments and a means for dispensing. The means for dispensing is removably coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments for dispensing paint from the paint storage compartments, wherein the means for dispensing is capable of dispensing paint without lifting the paint compartments. As discussed above, Briggs does not teach or make obvious wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Briggs.

Claims 3, 4 and 29 are all dependent on the independent Claim 1. As discussed above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Briggs. Accordingly, the dependent Claims 3, 4 and 29 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claim 34 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,848,019 to Corbin et al. (hereinafter "Corbin"). Based on the above amendments, the Applicant respectfully disagrees. Corbin teaches a device for mixing paints. Corbin does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. Corbin also does not teach wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment.

In contrast to the teachings of Corbin, the present invention is directed towards a paint storage container including a plurality of paint storage compartments formed in downward sloping configuration with each compartment having a spigot coupled to the base for dispensing

the stored paint. [Present Specification, Abstract]. In one aspect of the present invention, a frame is configured for holding the paint storage compartments. [Present Specification, page 3, line 22]. In another aspect of the present invention, a body is configured for holding the paint compartments. [Present Specification, page 4, line 7]. Moreover, the present invention specifies a means for dispensing removably coupled to the paint storage compartments. [Present Specification, page 2, lines 18-19]. As discussed above, Corbin does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. Corbin also does not teach wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment.

The independent Claim 34 is directed towards a paint storage container. The paint storage container comprises one or more colors of paint, a plurality of paint *storage* compartments each for storing a color paint, each paint storage compartment having a front, a back, a first side, a second side and a base, wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment, a frame holding the paint storage compartments, and a dispensing mechanism coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments for dispensing paint from the paint storage compartments, wherein the dispensing mechanism is capable of dispensing paint without lifting the paint compartments. As discussed above, Corbin does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. Corbin also does not teach wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 34 is allowable over the teachings of Briggs.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Within the Office Action, Claims 1, 3-7, 9-11, 13-19, 22-26 and 29-33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 4,311,017 to Reed. Reed teaches a thermoelectric jug cooler for changing the temperature of a quantity of liquid. Reed does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. Reed also does not teach wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment.

In contrast to the teachings of Reed, the present invention is directed towards a paint storage container including a plurality of paint storage compartments formed in a downward sloping configuration with each compartment having a spigot coupled to the base for dispensing the stored paint. [Present Specification, Abstract]. In one aspect of the present invention, a frame is configured for holding the paint storage compartments. [Present Specification, page 3, line 22]. In another aspect of the present invention, a body is configured for holding the paint compartments. [Present Specification, page 4, line 7]. Moreover, the present invention specifies a means for dispensing removably coupled to the paint storage compartments. [Present Specification, page 2, lines 18-19]. Furthermore, in contrast to the teachings of Reed, the present invention teaches a dispensing means for dispensing paint without having to lift the paint storage compartments from a wall or a resting surface. The dispensing mechanism is removably coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments. As discussed above, Reed does not teach wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. Reed also does not teach wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment.

The independent Claim 1 is directed to a paint storage container. The paint storage container of Claim 1 comprises a plurality of paint storage compartments each for storing paint having a front, a back, a first side, a second side and a base, wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, a frame holding the paint storage compartments and a means for dispensing. The means for dispensing is removably coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments for dispensing paint from the paint storage compartments, wherein the means for dispensing is capable of dispensing paint without lifting the paint compartments. As discussed above, Reed does not teach or make obvious wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Reed.

Claims 3-6 and 29 are all dependent on the independent Claim 1. As discussed above, the independent Claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Reed. Accordingly, the dependent Claims 3-6 and 29 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 7 is directed to a paint storage container. The paint storage container of Claim 7 comprises a plurality of paint storage compartments each for storing paint and each having a front, a back, a planar first side, a planar second side and a base, wherein the

reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, a frame holding the paint storage compartments and a means for dispensing, a frame holding the paint storage compartments, one or more lids covering the paint storage compartments and a stirring assembly removably coupled to the lids for stirring the paint stored in the paint storage compartments. The paint storage container of Claim 7 further comprises a dispensing mechanism removably coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments to dispense paint from the paint storage compartments, wherein the dispensing mechanism is capable of dispensing paint without lifting the paint compartments. As discussed above, Reed does not teach or make obvious wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, a frame holding the paint storage compartments and a means for dispensing. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 7 is allowable over the teachings of Reed.

Claims 9, 10 and 30 are all dependent on the independent Claim 7. As discussed above, the independent Claim 7 is allowable over the teachings of Reed. Accordingly, the dependent Claims 9, 10 and 30 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 11 is directed to a paint storage container. The paint storage container of Claim 11 comprises a plurality of paint storage compartments each for storing paint and each having a front, a back, a first side, a second side and a base, wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment, a frame holding the paint storage compartments, a dispensing mechanism removably coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments for dispensing paint from the paint storage compartments, wherein the dispensing mechanism is capable of dispensing paint without lifting the paint compartments, one or more lids covering the paint storage compartments and a stirring assembly removably coupled to the lid for stirring the paint stored in the paint storage compartments. As discussed above, Reed does not teach or make obvious wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 11 is allowable over the teachings of Reed.

Claims 14, 15 and 31 are all dependent on the independent Claim 11. As discussed above, the independent Claim 11 is allowable over the teachings of Reed. Accordingly, the dependent Claims 14, 15 and 31 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 16 is directed to a reusable paint container. The reusable paint container of Claim 16 comprises a plurality of paint compartments each for storing paint and each having a first front, a first back, a first side, a second side and a base, wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment, a body holding the paint compartments having a second front, a second back, a planar third side and a planar fourth side, one or more lids removably coupled to the paint compartments, a stirring mechanism removably coupled to the outer side of the lids and a fan apparatus removably coupled to the rod of the stirring mechanism on the inner opposite side of the lids. The reusable paint container of Claim 16 also includes a dispensing mechanism removably coupled to the base of the paint storage compartments to dispense paint from the paint storage compartments, wherein the dispensing mechanism is capable of dispensing paint without lifting the paint compartments. As discussed above, Reed does not teach or make obvious wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 16 is allowable over the teachings of Reed.

Claims 17, 18 and 32 are all dependent on the independent Claim 16. As discussed above, the independent Claim 16 is allowable over the teachings of Reed. Accordingly, the dependent Claims 17, 18 and 32 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

The independent Claim 22 is directed to a reusable paint container. The reusable paint container of Claim 22 comprises a body having a first side, a second side and a plurality of integral paint compartments, each of the paint compartments having a front, a back, a planar first side, a planar second side and a base, wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment, one or more lids removably coupled to the paint compartments, a stirring mechanism removably coupled to the outer side of the lids and a fan

apparatus removably coupled to the rod of the stirring mechanism on the inner opposite side of the lid. The reusable paint container of Claim 22 also comprises a dispensing mechanism removably coupled to the base of the paint compartments to dispense paint from the paint compartments. As discussed above, Reed does not teach or make obvious, wherein an interior of the paint compartments has a sloped area and a reservoir area, wherein the reservoir area includes a centrally located depression having a hole located in a center of the depression, wherein the hole is for coupling a spigot assembly to the paint compartment. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 22 is allowable over the teachings of Reed.

Claims 23-25 and 33 are all dependent on the independent Claim 22. As discussed above, the independent Claim 22 is allowable over the teachings of Reed. Accordingly, the dependent Claims 23-25 and 33 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, Claims 21 and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reed in view of Briggs. Claim 21 is dependent on the independent Claim 16. Claim 28 is dependent on the independent Claim 22. As discussed above, the independent Claims 16 and 22 are both allowable over the teachings of Reed. Accordingly, the dependent Claims 21 and 28 are also both allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action Claims 20 and 27 are allowed.

For the reasons given above, applicants respectfully submit that the Claims 1, 3-7, 9-11, 14-18, 20-25 and 27-34 are in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, they are encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
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